



Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☒

PTO-SB-18 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10-31-2002. OMB C651-4032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/709,582
				Filing Date	May 14, 2004
				First Named Inventor	John E. Johnson
				Group Art Unit	3643
				Examiner Name	David J. Parsley
Sheet 1	of 1	Attorney Docket Number	717119.483		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
OP	A1	4,209,878		Albert et al.	07/01/1980	
	A2	4,246,837		Chenery	01/27/1981	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office	Number ⁴	Kind Code ³ (if known)				
OP	B1	WO	9402803		AEW, Int. Ltd.	02/03/1994		
	B2	EP	0 411 743		Knud Simonsen	02/06/1991		
	B3	WO	0178515		Townsend Engineering	10/25/2001		

Examiner Signature	<i>DeV</i>	Date Considered	5-16-05
--------------------	------------	-----------------	---------

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Document. ³ Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement; This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231 DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231